

4886

ANNUAL REPORT

on the working of the

Archaeological Museum Mathura

For the year ending March 31, 1953



LUCKNOW:

Printed and Published by the Government of India, Printing and Stationery, U. P. (India)

1956

069.09(5426)

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
MUSEUM, MATHURA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1953

1. *Managing Committee*—On the expiry of the term of the last Managing Committee of the Museum, reconstituted for a period of two years with effect from May 1, 1950, in G. O. no. A (2) /XV-960-48, dated May 6, 1950, the Government were pleased to reconstitute the same for a further period of three years with effect from May 1, 1952, *vide* Education Department G. O. no. A (2)/4865/XV-604 (64)-51, dated October 9, 1952.

Chairman

Dr. R. B. Chatterjee, M.A., Ph.D., Litt., Principal, Meerut College, Meerut.

Members

1. The President, District Board, Mathura.
2. The Chairman, Municipal Board, Mathura.
3. The Curator, State Museum, Lucknow.
4. Sri Sambhoo Nath Chaturvedi, M. L. A., village and P. O. Holipura, district Agra.
5. Srimati Shanti Devi Agarwal, M. L. C., 15-A, A. P. Sen Road, Lucknow.
6. The Deputy Director of Education, Agra Region.
7. Sri Goverdhan Rai, M.A., Lecturer, History Department, Allahabad University, Allahabad.
8. Sri Rai Krishna Dasa, Hony. Secretary, Bharat Kala Bhawan, Banaras.
9. Sri Rahul Sankrityayana, Happy Valley, Mussoorie.
10. Sri Har Govind Misra, Kanpur.
11. The Executive Engineer, Upper Division, Agra Canal, Mathura.
12. Srimati Tara Pandey, c/o Dr. P. Pandey, Naini Tal.
13. Sri Prayag Dayal, Latouche Road, Lucknow (Life Member).
14. Sri K. D. Bajpai, M.A., Archæological Officer, U. P., Lucknow.

Secretary

15. The Curator, Archæological Museum, Mathura.

No meeting of the Committee could be held for want of adequate funds to meet the travelling expenses of the members.

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2. *Administration*—Sri H. G. Misra, M. L. C., Kanpur, held the office of the first non-official Chairman of the Committee from April 1 to 30, 1952, and thereafter the same was held by me.

Sri J. P. Chaturvedi, continued to work as Officiating Curator and Secretary throughout the year.

3. *Finances*—The Government grant for the year was spent under various heads as follows :

	Rs.
1. Pay	5,482
2. Allowances and Honoraria	2,909
3. Contingencies	4,748
4. Works—Maintenance and Repairs	700
Total ..	<u>13,839</u>

The usual recurring grant of Rs.1,500 for maintenance and repairs to the museum buildings was reduced this year to Rs.700 only.

Generally the amount for maintenance and repairs to the Government buildings is calculated by the P. W. D. at the rate of one per cent of the total cost of the building. Taking into consideration the total cost of the Museum building, which is over Rs.1,60,000, a sum of Rs.700 is quite insufficient and it is not possible to maintain properly the main Museum building and its out houses with a petty amount of Rs.700 per year.

INCOME

(a) Sale of Museum Publications

	Rs.	a.
1. Sale of Museum Hand-book 57 copies at twelve annas each ..	35	4
2. Sale of Museum Picture Post cards 95 sets at Re.1 each ..	95	0
Total ..	<u>130</u>	<u>4</u>

The amount realized as sale-proceeds of the above publications was credited into the Government Treasury under the head "XLV—Printing and Stationery, U. P., Acts and other Books".

(b) Sale of Grass and Flowers

The amount of Rs.80 realized as sale of grass and flowers in the museum compound during the year was deposited into the Government Treasury under the head "XXXVI—Miscellaneous Department Museum Receipts, U. P."

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4. *Acquisition*—(a) *Sculptures, etc.*—During the year twenty-seven antiquities (Museum Register nos. 3621 to 3647) consisting of sculptures and terracottas were acquired for the Museum. The following of them deserve special notice :

(1) A male figure (no. 3624) wearing coat and trousers as found on Saka figures. He holds a horn (*Turhi*) with both hands. This is a very interesting piece of red sandstone. Kushana Period.

(2) Stone lintel (no. 2635) carved on both sides. On obverse are shown five winged lion figures in motion. The reverse is more interesting. Worship of Buddha is shown here by celestial beings carrying flowers, garlands, etc. This piece is full of life and action and ranks among the first rate lintels of the early Kushana Period.

(3) Upper part of a female figure (no. 3632) with tastefully arranged coiffure. The usual Sunga ornaments are also there.

(4) Beautifully carved head (no. 3638) of a girl. The hair is artistically arranged, first parted in the middle and then tied on the back in the shape of a heavy coiffure.

(5) Terracotta Mother and Child (no. 3637). The mother wears round ear-rings and heavy torque. She held a pot in her right hand.

(6) Beautiful head (no. 3642) of Parvati. The headdress is elaborate. The skull over the head is remarkable. Late Gupta.

(7) Female bust (no. 3643) probably of Hariti. The right hand was held in the *abhayamudra*. The armlets here are of special interest.

(b) *Coins*—In all 390 coins were added to the Museum Coin Cabinet. They included 200 punch-marked silver coins and 190 copper coins.

5. *Arrangement*—Nearly all the new antiquities were suitably mounted and the important ones were exhibited in the galleries. Slight changes were made in the arrangement of heads displayed in Bay no. 1. Most of the old and faded labels were renewed.

6. *Educational activities*—This Museum, as usual, attracted a large number of students and scholars interested in Indian Art, History, and Archaeology. Students of the local and outside educational institutions and military soldiers of Mathura Cantonment visited the Museum. They were taken round the galleries in batches by the Curator and were explained the

significance of the antiquities displayed therein. Members of the Foreign Embassies, stationed at the capital of India, evinced keen interest in the Museum and they were specially attended to by Sri Chaturvedi. The photographs of important sculptures and estampages of inscriptions were supplied to scholars and institutions.

7. *Library*—Besides the journals and periodicals, thirty-five new books on Indian Art, History and Archaeology were added to the Museum Reference Library.

8. *Museum Building and Garden*—The experiment of examining the cracks in the walls of the Museum building was continued by the P. W. D. The cement till-tiles were replaced by glass ones this year to see the development of the cracks. The final report of the P. W. D. in this respect, still remains to be submitted to Government.

The garden and lawns were sufficiently improved this year. They were kept in a neat and tidy condition. Some new trees were also planted during the rains. Necessary changes in the inner courtyard of the Museum were also made.

The Bharatpur Mound, locally known as Hariparvat, lying to the west of the Museum building, was acquired this year by Land Acquisition and a long-felt want was thus removed. Adequate steps are to be taken now to get the site properly levelled and cleaned. It is hoped that Government will be pleased to allot funds for levelling and enclosing of the mound before construction of the proposed blocks is undertaken.

9. *Visitors*—During the year the Museum attracted a large number of visitors from India and abroad. Some of the distinguished visitors were :

Mr. K. deB. Codrington, University of London.

Srimati Madhuri Desai, Bombay.

H. E. the Belgian Ambassador, New Delhi.

Sri J. A. Robertson, U. K. High Commissioner in India.

Hon'ble Sri G. V. Mavalankar, Speaker, House of the People, New Delhi.

Sri Sumitra Nandan Pant.

Sri Shantilal H. Shah, Minister for Labour and Health, Bombay.

H. H. Sri Sawai Brijandra Singh Ji, Raja of Bharatpur.

Dr. P. H. Pott, Curator, Indian Section, National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden, Holland.

Dr. Meghnad Shaha, M. P.

H. E. The Swedish Ambassador, New Delhi.

H. E. The Canadian High Commissioner in India, New Delhi.

Sri T. R. Shivadasani, I.C.S., Commissioner, Agra-Meerut Division,
and

Mr. B. H. Rockefeller, New York City, U. S. A.

H. E. the Governor of U. P., Sri K. M. Munshi, accompanied by Srimati Lilavati Munshi, was kind enough to pay a visit to this Museum on February 21, 1953. They were taken round by Sri J. P. Chaturvedi and were much pleased to see the rich collections of the Museum.

On the suggestion of Sri R. R. Singh, I.A.S., Collector, Mathura, arrangements were made for a SANJHI SHOW (dry colour work) in a room of the Museum, which was greatly appreciated by both Sri Rajyapal and Mrs. Munshi. They were much impressed by this old art of Vraja and made some valuable suggestions for its improvement.

10. *General*—The Curator, Sri Chaturvedi, visited a number of sites in the district in order to collect antiquities for the Museum. He also attended the XV Session of the Indian History Congress and also the Session of the Museums Association of India held at Gwalior. Keen interest in the all-round development of the Museum was shown by him. With a view to facilitate the visitors coming by road by Agra and Delhi side, suitable signboards were fixed by him at crossings and other suitable places.

J. P. CHATURVEDI,

*Officiating Curator,
Archæological Museum,
Mathura.*

April 2, 1953.

B. R. CHATTERJEE,

*Chairman,
Museum Committee,
Mathura.*

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APPENDIX A

*Antiquities acquired for the Archaeological Museum, Mathura,
during the year 1951-52*

Regis- ter no.	Description	Find-place	Source
1	2	3	4
3621	Male figure with the feet broken. Part of the face and the left arm is also gone. The hair arrangement is beautifully done. Red sandstone. Gupta.	Kankali Tila	Acquired by the Offg. Curator Sri J. P. Chaturvedi.
3622	Inscribed pedestal of a Buddha image. In the centre of the pedestal is the pilaster surmounted by a wheel. On one side of it are seen two male devotees while on the other are two females. The corners are occupied by two lions as usual. Kushana Period.	Naroli Village	Presented by Pt. Govind Charan, Mathura.
3623	Broken pedestal of a standing image. The right foot of the deity is extant. Below the foot is a Brahmi Kushana inscription in two lines— Line 1— महाराजदेव पु Line 2— भिक्षुणिये को द्रवि The rest of the inscription is broken.	Mahavidya Tila	Ditto.
3624	Male figure wearing coat and trousers as found on Saka figures. He holds a horn with both hands. Red sandstone. Kushana.	Nai Gali, Mathura City.	Ditto.
3625	Stone lintel carved on both the sides. On obverse are shown five winged lion figures. The reverse is more interesting. Worship of the Bodhi tree is shown here by celestial beings carrying flowers, garlands, etc. This piece is full of life and action and ranks amongst first rate lintels of the Kushana Period.	Bhuteshwar	Ditto.
3626	Forepart of a terracotta lion figure. In the neck is seen a garland. Kushana.	Mahavidya Tila	Ditto.
3627	Terracotta plaque showing a mithuna, partly damaged. The female figure wears a number of ornaments.	Kankali Tila	Ditto.
3628	Terracotta male figure seated on a morha. Holds purse and an indistinct object in hands. Crude workmanship. Kushana.	Kankali Tila	Ditto.

Register no.	Description	Find-place	Source
1	2	3	4
3629	Mutilated standing male figure carved in the round. The back is interesting and shows artistically worn <i>dhotti</i> . There is a headgear and a torque on the neck. (cf. Parkham Yaksha). Red clay. Kushana.	Deeg Gate, Mathura	Presented by Pt. Govind Charan, Mathura.
3630	Terracotta female and dwarf. The woman wears heavy ornaments. Her right hand rests over the head of the boy attendant. With the left hand she is holding her girdle. Sunga Period.	Ditto	Ditto.
3631	Terracotta piece showing a female head. The face is finely carved. It is covered with a cloth. There is foliage work above. Early Kushana.	Katra Site	Ditto.
3632	Upper part of a female figure with tastefully arranged coiffure. The usual ornaments are also there. Sunga.	Deeg Gate	Ditto.
3633	Beautifully carved head of a girl. The hair is tastefully arranged, first parted in the middle and then tied back in the shape of a heavy coiffure.	Haizaghar locality	Ditto.
3634	Lower part of a lady and the dwarf attendant. Similar to No. 3630. Sunga.	Sarai Azampur	Ditto
3635	Terracotta male figure of the Mother-Goddess type. Bodecked with various ornaments. Hands and feet are broken. Black clay. Maurya.	Anjhai village, on Mathura-Delhi road.	Ditto.
3636	Terracotta bust of a seven hooded Naga figure. The right hand is held up while the left holds a jug. Black clay. Kushana Period.	Sarai Azampur,	Ditto.
3637	Terracotta mother and child. She wears round ear-rings with big holes, heavy torque over the developed breasts. The child is sucking the right breast. She holds a pot in her hand, which has a number of bracelets. Kushana Period.	Anjhai village on Mathura-Delhi road.	Ditto.
3638	Terracotta plaque showing a male figure, much worn out. The right hand holds some indistinct object while the left falls down. Red clay. Late Kushana.	Bara Chamarhana, Mathura city.	Ditto.
3639	Broken piece of a Vishnu image. Only the left hand of Vishnu holding a chakra is extant. The attendants and Ganesha are shown in the sculpture. Medieval.	Shergarh village, Tahsil Chhata, District, Mathura.	Presented by Ramlal Chaudhary of Village, Shergarh.

Regis- ter no.	Description	Find-Place	Source
1	2	3	4
3640	Broken sculpture showing a devotee with <i>uttariya</i> . Bunch of flowers and buds behind. Red sand stone. Kushana.	Katra Mound.	Acquired by the Curator, Sri J. P. Chaturvedi.
3641	Broken piece of a sculpture with two male devotees holding chauri in their right hands. Kushana.	Gokaran Tila, Mathura.	Ditto.
3642	Beautiful head of Parvati. The coiffure is nicely done. The skull over the head is remarkable. Late Gupta.	Bungalow in Civil Lines, Opposite Reserve Police Line.	Presented by Sri Ved Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mathura.
3643	Female bust probably of Hariti. The right hand was held in <i>abhayamudra</i> . Wears usual ornaments. The armlets are of special interest.	Katra Tila	Acquired by the Offg. Curator, Sri J.P. Chaturvedi.
3644	Part of a small railing pillar showing a female in Shalbhanjika motif. She is standing under Asoka tree. Kushana.	Bagichi Ehteshwar	Ditto.
3645	Upper part of a terracotta Mother Goddess figure. There are a heavy ear-rings, torque and <i>stanahara</i> , all applique, black clay.	Girdharpur Tila	Ditto.
3646	Architectural piece with a dwarf holding indistinct object. Early Medieval.	Bagichi near Bal-bhadra Kund, Mathura.	Ditto.
3647	Pillar-base. Mughal Period.	Vrindaban.	Ditto.

APPENDIX B

*List of Books added to the Archaeological Museum Library, Mathura,
During the year 1952-53*

Serial no.	Name of book	Presented by or purchased
1	2	3
1371	Bharhut Vedika, by S. C. Kala	U. P. Government.
1372	Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India, No. 61, Excavations at Agroha, Punjab, by H. L. Srivastava, Jt. Director General of Archaeology, New Delhi.	Government of India.
1373	The History and Culture of Indian People, Vol. I—The Vedic Age by, R. C. Majumdar and A.D. Pusalkar.	Purchased
1374	Hindu Medieval Sculptures, by Raymond Burnier. ..	Ditto.
1375	Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India, No. 70— The Gupta Temple at Deogarh, by M. S. Vats.	Government of India.
1376	Census of India, 1951, U. P., Vol. II., Part, II-A by R. Prasad, I. A. S.	U. P. Government.
1377	Yuganaddha—The Tantric View of life, by Dr. H. V. Guenther.	Purchased.
1378	Sri Purana Samhita, by Sri Krishna Priyacharya ..	Ditto.
1379	Hand-book of the Collections in the Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery, Vol. VIII, Pt. I, 1950—1952, by H. Goetz.	The Author.
1380	The Archaeology of World Religions, by Jack Finegan	The Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey.
1381	The Cultural Heritage of Madhya Bharat, by Dr. D. R. Patil.	The author.
1382	Padmavati, by M. B. Garde	Ditto.
1383	A Note on Swords, by Sardar A. A. Patil	Ditto.
1384	Dhar and Mandu, by Major C. E. Luard ..	Purchased.
1385	Census of India, 1951, U. P., Vol. II., Pt. I-B, by R. Prasad, I. A. S.	U. P. Government.
1386	Indian Images, Pt. I, by B. C. Bhattacharya ..	Purchased.
1387	Hindu Art in its Social Setting, by P. N. Peeruzshow ..	Ditto.
1388	Buddha. His Life, Doctrines and Order, by Dr. H. Oldenbury.	Ditto.
1389	Land of Thousand Buddhas, by Theos Bernard ..	Ditto.
1390	A Concise History of the Indian People, by H. G. Rowlinson.	Ditto.
1391	Census of India, 1951, U. P., Pt. II-B, Vol. II, by R. Prasad, I. A. S.,	U. P. Government.

Serial no.	Name of book	Presented by or purchased
1	2	3
1392	Vidyapati, by Suryabali Singh and Devendra Singh ..	Purchased.
1393	Kamayani, by Jayshankar Prasad	Do.
1394	Kamayani-ki-Tika, by Vishwambhar "Manava" ..	Do.
1395	Chandravali Natika, by Avadh Upadhyaya ..	Do.
1396	Chandragupta, by Jaishankar Prasad	Do.
1397	Purvaki or by Vrindabanlal Verma	Do.
1398	Siddharaj, by Maithlisharan Gupta	Do.
1399	Bihari Bodhini, by Lala Bhagwandin	Do.
1400	Bhramar Geet Sar, By Ramchandra Shukla ..	Do.
1401	Saket, by Maithlisharan Gupta	Do.
1402	Priya Pravasa, by Hari Audh	Do.
1403	Kavitta Ratnakar, by Umashankar Shukla ..	Do.
1404	Jayasi Granthavali, by Ramchandra Shukla ..	Do.
1405	Jhansi-ki-Rani, by Vrindaban Lal Verma ..	Do.

K. D. BAJPAI,

